

NEVADA DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

FACT SHEET

(pursuant to NAC 445A.236)

Applicant: Burgess Septic Tank Service
William J. Pearson
57 Manha Lane
Yerington, Nevada 89447

Permit: NEV98006 - Renewal

Location: Site 001
46 East Pursel Lane
Yerington, Lyon County, Nevada 89447
Latitude: 37° 28' 53" N
Longitude: 119° 06' 15" W
Township 12 N, Range 26 E, Sections 5 and 6 MDB&M

General: The Applicant proposes to continue to land apply domestic septage to approximately one hundred twenty acres of nutrient deficient agricultural land at Site 001, 46 East Pursel Lane, Yerington, Lyon County, Nevada. The authorization is proposed to be expanded to include land application of grease trap material. Burgess Septic Tank Service is a licensed septage hauler and is required to maintain this license to transport domestic septage and grease trap material to the facility.

The Division is requiring separate permits for each source (company) of domestic septage and grease trap material applied to a site. Other permits may be issued for the same activity at this site.

The site is owned by Richard Holbrook, Sr., formerly Holbrook Farms, and will be spray irrigated with wheel lines. The septage must be screened to remove solids over ½-inch in size before the septage can be land applied. The septage must be incorporated into the soil within 6 hours of being land applied. A crop must be planted to uptake the nitrogen that is contained in the septage within one year of application. The application rate of domestic septage will be based on the nitrogen needs of the crop to be planted. To reapply domestic septage and grease trap material to cropland, the crop must be harvested. Grazing does not meet this requirement.

The Applicant installed a 12,000-gallon, steel, underground storage tank at the beneficial use site to store the domestic septage during inclement weather and when the incorporation equipment is not operational. The septage storage system is reported to include a 40-mil PVC secondary liner. Based on the initial permit application, the pH of the septage in the storage tank is raised to 12 S.U. or greater for a minimum of 0.5 hours each time septage is added to the tank. This requirement will be dropped from the renewed permit. The domestic septage and grease trap material is screened upon entering the tank.

Receiving Water Characteristics: In 2001, the groundwater was reported to be at a depth of approximately 85 feet below ground surface in the on-site domestic supply well. Based on the 1998 Fact Sheet, the groundwater at this site meets all drinking water standards. The groundwater flow direction is reportedly to the northwest.

Groundwater monitoring is not required for domestic septage beneficial use sites.

Characteristics: Only domestic septage and grease trap material may be land applied. Domestic septage is defined as either liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, portable toilet, Type III marine sanitation device, or similar treatment works that receives only domestic sewage. Domestic

septage does not include liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank, cesspool, or similar treatment works that receives either commercial wastewater or industrial wastewater.

Flow: The application rate, in gallons of domestic septage and grease trap material per acre per year, shall be based on the nitrogen needs of the crop to be grown. If the crop is alfalfa with an annual nitrogen demand of 200 pounds per acre, domestic septage and grease trap material may be applied at a maximum rate of 77,000 gallons per acre per year. The actual nitrogen demand and, therefore, the application rate will be determined by the cropping practices, as described in the Operations and Maintenance Manual, and the crop yield.

In 2001, the Applicant applied an average of 7,796 gallons per acre per year and has applied the septage to new ground every quarter. The Applicant has proposed a maximum flow of 40,000 gallons per acre per year.

Permits for the land application of domestic septage do not include flow limitations.

Proposed Septage Use Requirements:

- Septage use must meet all of the requirements of 40CFR section 503, Standards for the Use or Disposal of Sewage Sludge.

- Domestic septage shall not be applied to land if the depth to groundwater is less than 3 feet.

- Domestic septage shall not be applied to land within 100 feet of any public roadway or within 600 feet of any residence.

- Domestic septage shall not be applied within 200 feet of a drinking water well not defined as a public water system.

- Domestic septage shall not be applied within 1,000 feet of a public water system well.

- Domestic septage shall not be applied within 50 feet of any irrigation or drainage ditch, swale, intermittent stream, creek, river, wetland, lake, or other surface water.

- All land application sites shall be fenced and posted with warning signs stating "DOMESTIC SEPTAGE APPLIED, NO TRESSPASSING" or similar.

- Equipment to incorporate the domestic septage into the soil shall be on the site and in operating condition before septage is land applied.

- Food crops shall not be grown on land that has had domestic septage applied within the past five (5) years.

- The domestic septage shall be land applied at a uniform rate by means of a spray bar, splash plate, or similar method approved by the Division.

- The domestic septage shall be screened through a ½-inch or finer screen to remove solids from the septage prior to land application. Solid material removed from the septage shall be disposed of in an approved landfill or burned on-site.

- Grease trap material shall be mixed with domestic septage at a rate of one part grease trap material to at least three parts domestic septage, by volume, before it is land applied.

-All tanks used for storage at the beneficial use site shall be permanently labeled to identify the contents of the tank, the Permittee, the Permittee's phone number, and the Permittee's address.

Schedule of Compliance: The Permittee shall implement and comply with the provisions of the schedule of compliance after approval by the Administrator, including in said implementation and compliance, any additions or modifications which the Administrator may make in approving the schedule of compliance. The Permittee shall implement and/or execute the following scheduled compliance requirements:

- a. Upon the effective date of this permit, the Permittee shall achieve compliance with the reuse limitations.
- b. Within sixty (60) days of the permit effective date, the Permittee shall submit an Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Manual covering the use of the domestic septage and grease trap material to the Division for review and approval.
- c. Within thirty (30) days of the permit effective date, the Permittee shall submit to the Division a fully executed agreement between the Permittee and the landowner authorizing the land application of domestic septage and grease trap material on the property at 46 East Pursel Lane, Yerington, Nevada.

The agreement must be for a minimum of one (1) year. If the agreement is for less than the remaining four (4) year term of the permit, the Permittee shall submit to the Division subsequent agreement(s) at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiration of the current agreement to ensure continuous authorization to operate.

Rationale for Permit Requirements: Permit requirements are necessary to protect the public health and prevent the land application site from becoming a public nuisance and a potential source of groundwater pollution.

Proposed Determination: The Division has made the tentative determination to issue the proposed permit for a five (5) year period.

Procedures for Public Comment: The Notice of the Division's intent to issue a permit authorizing the facility to land apply domestic septage and grease trap material subject to the conditions contained within the permit, is being sent to the **Mason Valley News** and the **Reno Gazette-Journal** for publication. The notice is being mailed to interested persons on our mailing list. Anyone wishing to comment on the proposed permit can do so in writing for a period of 30 days following the date of publication of the public notice in the newspaper. The date and time by which all written comment must be postmarked or transmitted to the Division via facsimile or e-mail is 5:00 P.M. August 18, 2003. The comment period can be extended at the discretion of the Administrator.

A public hearing on the proposed determination can be requested by the applicant, any affected State, any affected interstate agency, the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX or any interested agency, person or group of persons. The request must be filed within the comment period and must indicate the interest of the person filing the request and the reasons why a hearing is warranted. Any public hearing determined by the Administrator to be held must be conducted in the geographical area of the proposed discharge or any other area the Administrator determines to be appropriate. All public hearings must be conducted in accordance with NAC 445A.238.

The final determination of the Administrator may be appealed to the State Environmental Commission pursuant to NRS 445A.605.